

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 086080
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-05 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 OES-07 NSF-02 COME-00 NASA-02 /041 R

DRAFTED BY DOD/FMRA:JREINERTSON:KC
APPROVED BY ARA/CAR:DPIERCE
PM:PSCHLAMM (DRAFT)
ARA/CAR:AHWITT

-----105115 041701Z /47

O 041648Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 086080

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, BF

SUBJECT: PHOTOBATHYMETRIC CALIBRATION PROJECT IN THE
BAHAMAS

1. DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY HYDROGRAPHIC CENTER REQUESTS
BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATION TO DEVELOP AND MONITOR
A PHOTOBATHYMETRIC CALIBRATION AREA ON THE LITTLE BAHAMA
79-15W AND ON THE GREAT BAHAMA BANK IN THE AREA BOUNDED BY
25-20N, 26-10N AND 77-40W. DESCRIPTION OF
THE PROJECT FOLLOWS:

2. MEASUREMENTS WILL BE TAKEN OF BOTTOM SPECTRAL RE-
FLECTANCE CHARACTERISTICS AND WATER CLARITY VALUES IN
THE TWO AREAS. THESE WILL BE KEYED TO PRECISELY POSI-
TIONED DEPTH DATA. DIVER-COLLECTED DATA WILL BE CORRE-
LATED WITH SHIPBOARD ELECTRONIC POSITIONING DATA, SONIC
SOUNDINGS, AND AERIAL AND LANDSAT IMAGERY OF THE AREA.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 086080

3. ULTIMATE GOAL OF THE RESEARCH PROJECT IS TO
MEASURE SUFFICIENT ENVIRONMENTAL DATA IN THE AREA TO
PERMIT THE USE OF SHALLOW WATER BOTTOM FEATURES AS
CALIBRATED TARGETS WHICH CAN BE USED IN THE DEVELOPMENT

OF MORE ACCURATE AND RELIABLE METHODS FOR EXTRACTING
WATER DEPTH INFORMATION FROM REMOTE SENSORS SUCH AS

THE LANDSAT MULTISPECTRAL SCANNERS (MSS).

4. BY COLLECTING DETAILED BOTTOM DATA, THERE WILL BE NO NEED TO PERMANENTLY IMPLANT ANY TARGETS, BUOYS, ETC., IN THE BAHAMAS. THE OPERATION WILL REQUIRE TEMPORARY PLACEMENT OF REFERENCE MARKER BUOYS ONLY DURING SURVEYS. DEVELOPMENT AND MONITORING OF THE TWO DESIGNATED AREAS WILL REQUIRE ACCESS BY AIR AND SURFACE CRAFT SPECIFIED BELOW.

5. A CRUISE PLAN IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC SHIPBOARD OPERATIONS WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT BY 1 MAY 1978. TO SUPPLEMENT THE SURFACE DATA COLLECTION AND DIVER DATA COLLECTION, AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY FROM VARIOUS ALTITUDES WILL BE REQUIRED PERIODICALLY FROM APRIL 1978 THROUGH DECEMBER 1978.

6. SURFACE AND UNDERWATER OPERATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED DURING JUNE AND JULY 1978. CREW AND SCIENTISTS WILL CONSIST OF UP TO TWELVE PEOPLE, ALL U.S. CITIZENS. ACTUAL VESSEL TO BE USED IN THIS YEAR'S OPERATION HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED; HOWEVER, IT WILL PROBABLY BE THE SAME ONE USED IN THE OCTOBER SURVEY, THE R.V. CONSTANCE, AN 85 FOOT MOTOR VESSEL WITH HOMEPORT DANIA, FLORIDA. THE CONSTANCE IS OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY APPLIED PHYSICS LABORATORY.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 086080

ACTUAL BOAT OPERATIONS FOR THIS YEAR WILL BE CONDUCTED IN FOUR 12-13 DAY SEGMENTS DUE TO LOGISTICS LIMITATIONS. THERE WILL BE CHANGES IN CREW AND SCIENTISTS AS NECESSARY DURING THE OPERATIONS TO SUPPORT THE VARIOUS PHASES OF DATA COLLECTION.

7. PORT OF ENTRY WEATHER DEPENDENT: PRIMARY, GUN CAY OR BIMINI; SECONDARY, WESTEND, GRAND BAHAMA. NO EQUIPMENT WILL BE LANDED.

8. THIS RESEARCH PROGRAM AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CALIBRATION AREA ARE EXTENSIONS OF THE NASA/COUSTEAU OCEAN BATHYMETRY EXPERIMENT CONDUCTED IN 1975 AND THE RESULTANT RESEARCH SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY IN OCTOBER 1977. THE PROGRAM IS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE DEFENSE MAPPING AGENCY WITH SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION OF BOTH THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) AND THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA). AS WITH THE OCTOBER 1977 OPERATION, COPIES OF ALL DATA AND PHOTOGRAPHS TOGETHER WITH

RESULTS OF EXPERIMENTS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT VIA THE DESIGNATED POINT OF CONTACT, THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEYS. INFORMATION COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND SURVEYS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED TO THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS.

9. DEPENDING UPON DEGREE OF SUCCESS OBTAINED, WHICH SHOULD BE EVIDENT BY LAST QUARTER OF 1978, DMAHC WOULD EXPECT TO SUBMIT REQUEST FOR PROJECT EXTENSION FOR 1979.

10. STATE AND DOD HAVE CONSIDERED IMPACT OF THIS REQUEST ON OUR CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS FOR FACILITIES RIGHTS. WHILE SOMEWHAT UNCOMFORTABLE OVER TIMING, APPROVAL UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 086080

WAS GRANTED SUBJECT TO CONCURRENCE OF EMBASSY ON GROUNDS THAT IT INVOLVES NO FIXED INSTALLATION OF ANY KIND AND THAT PROTOTYPE RESEARCH SURVEY CONDUCTED IN OCTOBER 1977 WAS FAVORABLY RECEIVED BY GCOB. EMBASSY COMMENTS WELCOMED.

11. IF NO OBJECTION PERCEIVED, EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SUBMIT PROJECT AND SEEK EARLY GCOB AUTHORIZATION. VANCE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HYDROGRAPHY, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE086080
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JREINERTSON:KC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780145-0541
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780494/aaaadbto.tel
Line Count: 144
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 80197db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3078667
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PHOTOBATHYMETRIC CALIBRATION PROJECT IN THE BAHAMAS
TAGS: TPHY, BF
To: NASSAU
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/80197db6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014